

Look Out Ahead!

World's Greatest Wisdom, Part 3

Pastor Ken Ritz * June 24, 2018 * New Life Vineyard Church

Review of last week

The Principle of the Path: Direction (not intention) determines destination.

The path of the righteous is like the morning sun, shining ever brighter till the full light of day. But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.

Proverbs 4:18-19

Example: If you decide to drive to Florida, but then get on I-75 heading north, you will never get there, because your direction is wrong. It doesn't matter how hard you pray, how much faith you have, or how great your intentions are, if you take a path in the wrong direction, you won't get to your desired destination in life.

Application: The Path Principle applies to our financial path, dating and relationship path, marriage path, spiritual life, parenting, job, career, etc. In each of these areas, people often have great intentions, hopes, and dreams for where they want to go in life, but then in their daily and weekly actions and decisions, they choose a path that leads to a much different destination.

Question To Ask: What path am I on now, and if I continue on that path, will it get me where I want to go in life?

Key Verse for this week:

The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty. Proverbs 22:3

2 people

2 responses to the same situation

2 outcomes

1. The prudent/wise person understands that life is

- _____:
- The path we're on today will lead to a destination tomorrow.
 - The prudent see danger, and take refuge.

2. The simple/naïve person thinks that life is

- _____:
- They don't recognize how the small decisions of today lead to a future destination.
 - The simple keep going and pay the penalty.
 - The simple feel convicted, but then keep going on the same path.
 - Sometimes the wise person looks foolish in the short-term.
 - They take action before the need is obvious.
 - If we continue down certain roads, there are points of no return beyond which there are no longer any good options.

Two critical areas to look ahead for danger

1. Relationships

- A relationship should be evaluated based on where it's headed, not on where it's at now.
- All relationships move; they become stronger or weaker, more intimate or less intimate.

2. Finances

The borrower is slave to the lender. Proverbs 22:7

4 Words That Describe The Prudent/Wise Experience

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Prayer For This Week

Heavenly Father, help me to see trouble coming long before it gets here, give me the wisdom to know what to do, and give me the courage to do it.